

LOCAL I-S NEWS

for department store workers

VOL 2, NO. 5

264

OCTOBER 15, 1950

OFFICIAL NOTICE

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

TUESDAY - OCTOBER 31st - 7 P. M.

MANHATTAN CENTER

(34th St. and 8th Ave.)

Constitutional Assessment of \$2 For Unexcused Absence

Full Report on Negotiations for a "Cost of Living" Increase

Union Committee Demands More Changes in Xmas Bonus

With the experience of many years behind them, members of the Local I-S Executive Board voted to establish a committee to meet with management and discuss the Christmas "attendance incentive bonus" before the grueling holiday schedule goes into effect.

Despite the fact that 1949 discussions got under way quite late in the season the Union was able to win more liberal interpretation of the "bonus" rules than had applied in previous years.

Before the Union sharply challenged the stringent company rules

workers were denied their extra pay if they had one absence or one lateness charged against them during the two week bonus period. Management accepted no excuses, and according to one Union official, "seemed to welcome the chance to avoid paying the bonus on the flimsiest pretexts."

Local I-S protests won considerable relaxation of the rules. One lateness of up to fourteen minutes in each of the bonus periods became allowable, and absence due to death in the immediate family or being called for jury duty no longer disqualified a worker.

The newly created committee will call on management and propose further changes in the rules governing the payment of the bonus.

Among the problems to be aired is the scheduling of workers who do not sign up to work the bonus hours. Last year the two bonus weeks were punctuated by bitter disagreements, threatened and actually walk-offs as a result of discriminatory scheduling.

Named to the Union's committee were: Max Wald, Carl Lutz, Tony Puca, Mona Weiner, Thelma Worth, Lillian Branca and Jack Jampole.

Commenting on the responsibilities of this committee, President Sam Kovenetsky said, "Macy's has traditionally used this so-called bonus to get people to do what their good judgment would not otherwise allow them to do. Under pressure from our Union the company was compelled to stop calling it a bonus. Nobody was getting anything they didn't earn — in fact they weren't getting enough for the time and labor they put into it. Last year we succeeded in winning some important concessions. If the committee this year works well and has the backing of the membership there is every reason to believe that we can make this a better Christmas season than Macy workers have ever known."

WAGE TALKS BEGIN; 1-S HITS AT RISING PRICES

Credit Union Booms As Hundreds Join

Credit Union business is booming so fast that officials of the organization are hard put to keep up with the heavy flow of membership and loan applications.

More than 400 Union members have already opened accounts and Credit Union assets already exceed \$6000. Loan applications received to date are almost equal to the amount deposited.

While it is considered much too early to tell with accuracy, there is already considerable unofficial talk about the Credit Union being able to pay a "substantial" dividend to share holders if the present rate of business continues until the end of the fiscal year.

Credit Union Treasurer Max Wald, in a report to the Shop Stewards, urged them to, "encourage your members to join the Credit Union as a means of saving and a place to borrow."

For full Credit Union information, see your Shop Steward or come to the Union office.

With higher prices and higher taxes already taking a big four dollars a week out of the average worker's weekly wages the officers and top committees of Local I-S are vigorously pressing the Union's demand for an immediate "cost of living" increase. Less than four months after signing an agreement which provided for raises in 1950 and 1951 the

1-S Dance A Huge Success

Preliminary reports from Dance Committee Chairman Tony Puca indicate that the Union's Welfare Board Dance on October 14th was a huge success from every point of view.

Everybody who was at the lavish Hotel Commodore agreed that the affair was the finest the Union had ever run.

Many Union members clustered about department parties while others were kept busy keeping track of the dozens of friends they had brought along for the evening of merrymaking.

The next issue of the Local I-S NEWS will be studded with pictures of the gala evening. Copies of the pictures can be ordered at the Union office at a special rate of fifty cents each.

local's newly named Negotiating Committee led by President Sam Kovenetsky and Vice Presidents George Gurian and Elizabeth Hammond met again with company representatives in an effort to offset the rapid loss of wages due to skyrocketing costs of food, clothing and other essentials.

Latest round in the bargaining series began in response to President Kovenetsky's telegram to Macy President Weil. The telegram read, "the Shop Stewards of Local I-S . . . unanimously voted the following resolution. 1, in view of the changed economic circumstances since the signing of the contract it is urgent that an upward revision of wages be negotiated immediately. 2, they further directed that the Executive Board of the Union meet . . . to elect a negotiating committee to carry forward these negotiations."

Negotiators Named

With the following members
(Continued on page 4)

Steward Students Start Classes

More than 35 Shop Stewards from Herald Square and the branch stores have enrolled and begun an eight week course of study in "Grievance Procedures."

The class, sponsored by Local I-S and conducted by Cornell University Extension School, is designed to give the Steward full knowledge of the Union's contract and to teach him grievance-winning techniques.

Present enrollment raises to 185 the number of Stewards who have indicated that they know they have a tough job to do and want to know how to do it better.

Said Vice President George Gurian, "Union records show that Shop Stewards who have attended these classes handle more grievances than those who have not studied the best methods. And the Stewards who have attended classes win more grievances at the first step than any others. These facts alone prove the tremendous value of our classes. The Shop Steward owes it to his department and to the Union as a whole to equip himself to do the best possible job. We congratulate the many who have already displayed such a high sense of duty."

Cornell University Extension School awards certificates to Stewards upon satisfactory completion of the course.



Vice President George Gurian recommends first withdrawal from new I-S library — Title: "Women Are Here To Stay" — Says the VP, "So is I-S!"

Big Demand Marks Opening of I-S Library

The Local I-S sub-station of the New York Public Library proved to be a big attraction when it opened on October 9th. Stocked with new titles and old stand-bys the library did a booming business in its first few days.

The library will be open between the hours of 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 5 P.M. to 7 P.M. every week day. It will be closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays.

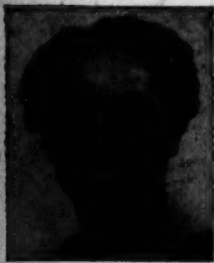
There will be a nominal charge to borrowers. The first week will cost readers five cents, the second week an additional ten cents. A fine of five cents per day will be charged for every day over two weeks.

Said President Sam Kovenetsky, "It is unfortunate that we have to place a charge on borrowing from the library, but we find that we must in order to meet the cost of providing this service and in order to look forward to expanding its facilities."

Request forms for books not in the present collection are available at the Union office. New books will be added every three months.

BRANCH STORE NEWS

WHITE PLAINS



Hilda Proctor

grand after her nine week tour of Europe . . . Keith Toucey sends his best from a camp somewhere in South Carolina. His boot training is just about completed . . . Priscilla Reynolds is moving to Jamaica and will be working in the Jamaica store. One by one our original (opening) people are leaving us. Betsy McNaughton (accessories) has resigned after a long, long absence . . . Alva Moore will step into the Sponsorship in Fabrics we learn via the grapevine . . . After four and a half hours of discussion, Frances Petluck and Irene Kayser emerged from the manager's office with faces wreathed in smiles. They had won a protest against "unfair job reviews." The Dance was wonderful!

JAMAICA

Latest promotions in Jamaica include — Joan Faller, from J12 clerical to selling in Toys; Sam Charles of the Night Porters promoted to Receiving only after the Store Committee and Administrator Roberta Felsen turned on the heat and demanded fair treatment . . . Richard Martiano, convalescing from a shoulder operation was in to say "hello." Dick may even be back with us before these words reach print. Vince Muscato, Chairman of the Jamaica Dance Committee, says he is very well pleased with the terrific Jamaica turnout at the Dance. Says he only wishes it had been 100% . . . the last softball game of the season was played by our Jamaica team. We beat the Ravens, 5-3 and ended the season with a record of 11 games won and 4 lost . . . George Polakoff (paints), Sal Trezza (shoes) and Mary Edwards (Furs) will take care of all requests for applications and will answer all your questions about the Local I-S Credit Union. The Credit Union is our bank. It's there for us to use well. Lots of people from Jamaica have already opened accounts. Many have borrowed money — some have shifted savings from regular savings banks to our Credit Union, but all of them say that it's terrific having a bank to call their own!

PARKCHESTER



Georgine Staib

winning ball team and a winning Union! . . . Lucian Colombi is out with a broken bone in his foot. We hope you mend quickly! . . . And Anita Ryan (P10) and Naomi Coyne are both recuperating from operations . . . Sylvia Fine Barouch has decided on the quiet life until the Stork pays her a visit in May . . . It's always nice to meet old friends at Union get-togethers. We had a grand time at the Commodore and look forward to lots more pleasant I-S affairs. Lots of happy talk up here following the Stewards Conference and the decision to ask for a cost of living raise. Most people feel the pinch of higher prices and higher taxes and are glad that the Union has lost no time in trying to remedy a bad situation.

FLATBUSH

John Beninati of men's wear has been drafted into the Armed Forces. It seems that the war is creeping closer and closer to home . . . Congratulations to Helen Tierney on her promotion from hosiery to childrens' clothes. That's what's known as working your way up! . . . Everybody we've spoken to who was at the dance on Saturday had a really wonderful time. After hearing the reports, those who weren't there are wishing they had been. But like everybody else in Brooklyn they're "waiting 'till next year!" . . . Our Union's call for Herald Square donors to the Blood Bank serves notice on us that our turn is again coming soon. Last time we led all the other Branch Stores. Let's stay on top by beginning to plan now! . . . Charlotte Zeisler is leaving us for a while. She's taking a maternity leave and she goes with best wishes from all of us . . . Belated birthday greetings are in order to Leona Mazzola and Teddy Weiss — congratulations to both of you . . . One big problem that has come back to haunt us is the fact that Stewards are not writing up their grievances. This means that when a problem is taken up we start with two strikes against us. Let's get the facts — put them in writing and be sure of winning. We're fighting for ourselves!



Rhea Sabran

LETTERS to the EDITOR

To The Editor:

This is an open letter to all Union members and it is one that I hope will be read with interest.

This letter concerns the cafeteria. Specifically it concerns "Unit 2." This unit has been opened for about a month without enough workers staffing it to handle a full day's business. Now you might say, "What does this mean to me?" It means that you have to wait in line for 15 or 20 minutes — and that time is *your* loss. It means that people who work in the cafeteria are facing lay-offs because of the poor service due to under-staffing. These people are your fellow Union members. You, and you alone, can help them.

Now let us take a look at what can happen by your active participation in this matter: 1) If you actively protest the poor service it could mean the hiring of additional workers to serve you, 2) it will mean shorter lines and less time to wait for your meals and 3) it will mean still more Union members to help build Local I-S stronger and help us meet other problems that come along.

It's up to you. Will you help?
MacDonald Foster
Shop Steward—204 Dept.

To The Editor:

I want to express my sincere thanks to Local I-S for the swell job they did for me. I had a full time job in the Central Packing Unit. In order to continue college it was necessary for me to obtain a part time job. Macy said "No." "To be transferred from Receiving to Selling one must have an excellent rating," they claimed. I was sent to the Employment Office to be interviewed for the part-time job. They stalled for weeks, not saying yes or no. I was pressed for time because school was about to begin. I spoke to Sam Kovenetsky about the possibility of receiving a part time job. Three days later I was interviewed again AND GOT THE JOB! My sincere thanks to Max Wald for his help. Thanks to President Kovenetsky and Bill Róschak. Thanks to Local I-S. They all deserve our full support.

Sincerely,
Bill Dunn —
38 Dept.

Drama Group Presents "Our Town" Oct. 30

The first night curtain will rise on the Local I-S Herald Square Players production of "Our Town" on Monday, October 30th at the Cherry Lane Theater, 38 Commerce Street.

Jack Paritz, director of the Union troupe announced that performances will also be given on Tuesday, October 31st and Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, November 1st, 3rd and 4th, at 8:30 P.M.

All tickets are priced at \$1.20. There will be no reserved seats and only 200 tickets will be sold for each performance. Tickets are available at the Union office and will also be on sale at the theater's box office during the week of the performance.

To reach the Cherry Lane Theater take the 7th Avenue IRT subway local to the Christopher Street Station. Walk three blocks North to Commerce Street.

(Continued on page 4)

Typists Win 'No Noise—No Nonsense' Fight

The girls in the DA Typing Division will be the first to admit that there is no way of knowing how foolish an executive can get, but every way of knowing how effective organization can be when it comes to making good sense prevail.

For a long while the typists had complained about noisy office equipment which had been installed and which was responsible for headaches and other severe inconveniences. For a long while they were also patient, because management kept telling them that the situation would be remedied. The girls ran out of patience before the company ran out of excuses, however, and they decided to take matters into their own hands. As if by some pre-arranged signal they left their machines and adjourned to the hospital.

Management got the idea quickly and attempted retaliation came fast. The supervisor decreed that instead of staggered hours, everybody would come in and leave at the same time; all lunch hours and reliefs were to be taken at the same

time. Permission to leave the room for any personal reason had to be received in addition to a regular sign out. "In short," said the girls, "the department was to be run on a prison schedule!"

Shop Steward Irene Mareca lost no time in hitting back. Her grievance form spelled out all the abuses management was trying to impose and the indictment was turned over to the company.

Fully aware that they were holding a hot potato, management agreed that all schedules were to be restored to what they had been before the storm. They also moved quickly to remove the graphotype machines, original source of the trouble.

Said Office Administrator Dorothy Pandolfini, "If management had been smart they would have seen this trouble brewing. They didn't have to wait for it to boil over before doing something about the situation. The girls are a credit to themselves and the Union. When argumentss failed, they acted and they won!"



Vice President Elizabeth Hammond explains the facts if I-S life to some of the newly joined demonstrators.

Union Wins Long Fight; 250 Demonstrators Join Ranks

In a fitting climax to long years of hard organizing and bitter negotiations more than 250 demonstrators became full-edged members of Local I-S.

Main obstacle over the years was the fact that each demonstrator was hired by individual vendors at individually determined wages and working conditions.

Local I-S had long regarded the many experienced non-union salespeople as a threat to the organized departments. It was felt that in many cases the demonstrators could not have been counted on to support the Union members in the event of departmental or store-wide problems.

At the insistence of Local I-S Macy management finally agreed to recognize the demonstrators and to afford them the protection of the Union contract after they had signed application cards for membership in Local I-S.

Many of the demonstrators had worked for vendors in Macy's for several years while being denied such Union-won gains as automatic wage increases and job security.

President Sam Kovenetsky, in presenting the information to the Union's Executive Board, said, "It has always been our desire and intention to bring this large group of workers into our Union. With this accomplishment we can safely

say that we have eliminated management's last possible beachhead for anti-union action within the store.

"It is a credit to the strength of our Union that we have been able to overcome the many obstacles that stood in our way. Many demonstrators have already indicated that they intend to become active in the affairs of Local I-S. We have every reason to believe that our Union will go on growing bigger and stronger. We will win more victories and each and every Union member will have a part in making them possible.

"We welcome the demonstrators and look forward to their help in extending our gains to those elsewhere who have yet to achieve the high standards only a strong Union can win."

NEW! OFFICIAL LOCAL I-S EMBLEM

Every Union member should own and wear one of these smartly designed lapel pins in blue and gold. Emblems come with either safety catch bar pin or screw back.

LET THE WORLD KNOW YOU BELONG TO LOCAL I-S. BUY YOUR EMBLEM TODAY — ONLY 70 CENTS AT THE UNION OFFICE

LOCAL 1-S NEWS

Published Twice Monthly by

LOCAL 1-S, UNITED RETAIL WORKERS, UNAFFILIATED
125 West 33rd Street New York 1, N. Y.

President: Sam Kovenetsky

1st Vice Pres.: George Gurian — 2nd Vice Pres.: Elizabeth Hammond

Editorial Board

Dorothy De Mauriac

Carl Lutz

William Roschak

Editor: Dick Pastor

Pay As You Go

The government's new tax program is officially designated as a "pay-as-you-go" plan. Chief difference between this method of financing government operations and the methods employed during World War II is the difference between the government taking your money or borrowing it.

The entire policy rests on the false belief that workers have excess dollars to part with. Powerful business lobbies have successfully convinced the President and the Congress that the only way to avoid further cuts in the value of the dollar is to cut the number of dollars a worker has to spend. These lobbies were so powerful and so successful that the Congress passed a bill raising income taxes by 20% while they refused to vote on an excess profits tax. And official word from the nation's capitol is that the current tax boost is only the beginning!

As workers we know that we have been behind the eight ball of rising prices since Congress voted to kill price controls. We know, from our first hand experience, that while our pay has gone up — thanks to the efforts of our Union — the purchasing power of our pay has gone down — thanks to the profiteering of big business. We know that our dollars buy less groceries than ever before. Our dollars buy half as many subway rides as before. More of our dollars go to the landlord than ever before. Very few, if any, of our dollars go to buy luxuries or non-essentials.

Our Union Program

Because it has become increasingly difficult for us to make ends meet we are now engaged in new negotiations, for a "cost of living" increase. Our strength and our unity will enable us to win what we all hope will be a substantial amount. But a raise alone is not enough, for we have seen other raises eaten up by rising prices. We have seen the gains of a year wiped out in a month and the new taxes set us back still further.

With Election Day close at hand we can be sure that our Congressmen will be more sensitive to our needs and our opinions than he usually is. If we and other people in our districts let our representatives know that we don't have any excess dollars around and that we are strongly opposed to the recent increase in income taxes we can make them listen. If we insist that the burden of added taxation be shifted to the swollen money bags of big business we can make them act.

In the past we and most other American workers proved our loyalty and devotion by buying millions of dollars worth of bonds. Many of us had to scrimp and save to get \$18.75 together, but we did and we made our contribution, gloriously and voluntarily, to the financing of our government's program. We are strongly opposed to the idea of a wage freeze unless and until wages and prices are brought into line with each other.

We are for immediate repeal of the personal income tax increases!

We are for an excess profits tax to help meet government deficits!

We are for the government sale of bonds so that workers may give what additional support they wish!

We are for the immediate imposition of price control, with prices rolled back to the June 25th level!

We are for the continuation of full rent control!

If YOU are for these things — DON'T KEEP IT A SECRET. Your Congressman is in town looking for your vote. Tell him the things you want and need. Ask him where he stands. Check his record. If he has voted for you in the Congress, then vote for him in the election. If he has used his ballot to harm your interests, then use yours to replace him with a better man.

Election Day is never a time for sentiment, but this year's election puts the bread and butter issues squarely before us. We must not be fooled into voting against ourselves.

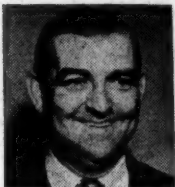
It is our personal responsibility to help make democracy work, to make known our needs and our desires, to find a man capable of ably representing us. To vote and make our vote count — are but a few of our obligations to our nation and to ourselves.

We must speak now or bear a burden made heavier with the knowledge that we missed our chance to make it lighter.

The Inquiring Photographer

THE QUESTION: What do you expect from elected public officials?

STANLEY NEWKIRK —
918 Department



I expect them to carry out the aims they advocated in their platform. I think that they should all work to keep the budget balanced and the tax burden on the people as light as possible. Honesty and sincerity in carrying out their programs are absolutely essential.

DORIS WEBBER —
161 Department

In view of the fact that the people elect office-holders mainly on the basis of their platform I would expect them to fulfill their promises. To get my vote a candidate must stand for aid to the workers in their striving for better economic and social conditions. FEPC with teeth in it, and a decent wage and hour law would be a good starting place.



VINCENT DEGAETANA —
Contingent



I expect public officials to carry out their campaign promises. They must work for the betterment of the city, state or nation — whichever they were elected to serve. More and better schools, public housing, social welfare and the general well-being of the people must be their first consideration. That's the type of person I would vote for!

ARTHUR GROSS —
59 Department

I expect them to do a good job and to do the best for the people. I believe that an official's first responsibility is to protect the welfare of the people. Good housing, slum clearance, decent pensions, lower personal income taxes and higher excess profits taxes are an important part of the job.



LADISLAV LEONIAK —
71 Department



I can't honestly answer that question. I think we all misuse our voting power by not making it our business to know what men stand for. Lots of us vote by party label instead of platform and performance. We even vote certain ways because our parents did! We must all take more of an honest interest in politics.

CONGRESSMAN DRIPP

BY YOMEN



"I'm worried! President Kovenetsky told his members to examine our voting record."

You And Your Landlord

By SAM SHAPIRO
Union Attorney

In a sense, this article is written by me to celebrate an anniversary. It is now one year since our Tuesday night legal clinics began. Of course, it is 10 years since I became legal advisor of Local 1-S. Considering the results of the clinic, I often wonder why we didn't start it years ago. I believe the clinic has been, and will continue to be, very helpful to members of Local 1-S.

Most 1-S members are tenants. There are very, very, few landlords. Thus, one of the most recurring problems at the clinic is the relationship between the landlord and the tenant. Most members must be interested in their rights, because the landlords are concerned only with their profits.

Although our members have many ways to protect themselves I am often amazed to listen to the stories they tell — of the years of no painting, no repairs, increased rents and utter contempt shown them by their landlords.

Inadequate as our laws are they nevertheless do provide some protection. A short discussion of such laws might be helpful.

Painting: A tenant is entitled to the same painting as was the practice on March 1, 1943. Thus, if on that date the practice was to paint every two years, a tenant is entitled to a full painting every two years. If the landlord refuses to paint, the tenant must send a letter to the landlord (registered, return receipt requested), asking for a painting. Save a copy of the letter and the post office receipts. If no painting is done in 30 days, the tenant must apply to the State Rent Commission, which will direct the landlord to paint. If he refuses to do so, the rent will be reduced.

Repairs: There have been complaints about landlords refusing to repair plumbing, walls, floors, etc. If you live in a building with three or more tenants, you must report your complaint to the Department of Housing and Building in your Borough. If you live in a one- or two-family house, unless you have a structural de-

fect, you complain to the Board of Health. For a structural defect, complaint is made to the Building Department.

If the landlord pays no attention to the Health or Building Department, a request should be made of these departments for a violation search. If violations are found and the landlord refuses to correct them, you can withhold your rent and the landlord cannot get the rent until the repairs are made.

Rent increases: Rent control is still in existence under the State laws. Thus, if your rent was fixed under the Federal or City laws, it continues fixed under the State laws.

However, landlords have been applying to the State Rent Commission for increases and many have received such increases.

The tenant must be vigilant in order to keep his rent down. As union members we must fight to strengthen the law so as to prohibit all rent increases. Landlords have never made as much money as they do today, with rent control in effect.

Can the landlord take your apartment for his use?

To remove you from your apartment for his own use, the landlord must prove "a compelling necessity." This is extremely difficult for the landlord to do if the tenant resists such applications. Generally, the landlord cannot get such apartment and, if he is awarded occupancy, the tenant is given many months to vacate.

There are many more problems which arise. Space does not permit a discussion of them. Unity, however is still, a powerful weapon.

Unity of the tenants in a house can achieve miracles. If your landlord is really bad, organize the tenants in a committee. By so doing, you can convince your landlord the tenants mean business. There is no substitute for joint action by the tenants.

If this short article has not answered your problem, remember the Legal Clinic every Tuesday night, from 5:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. at the union office.

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Wage Talks Begin . . .

(Continued from page 1)

named to the new committee, talks got under way less than two weeks after management was notified of the Union's intentions:

Carl Lutz, Bill Atkinson, Morris Telzer, Winifred Bothwell, Arthur Daum, Tony Puca.

Also on the Committee are: Tom Hastings, Katherine Blatt, Max Wald, Jack Steinman, Vincent Muscato, Tony Puca, Ernest Drucker and Charles Landrain.

Also serving are: Jack Toucey, Lillian Branca, Rhea Sabran and Myrtle Clark. Alternates are Tony Burns and May Fischer.

Drama Group . . .

(Continued from page 2)

The production of Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize Winning play is the group's first effort under the sponsorship of Local 1-S. The cast consists of men and women who belong to the Union. Many of the troupe have recorded successes in several previous off-Broadway and Summer stock hits.

President Sam Kovenetsky said, "most of us have wished, at one time or another, that we could see a good show at a price we could afford to pay. This joint venture of Local 1-S and the Herald Square Players now makes that possible. We are proud to have a part in bringing good theater, performed by capable actors and actresses, to our members. This presentation most certainly deserves the support of every person in our Union. I know that those who go will be the best press agents a show ever had."

Sounding the keynote for the negotiators before the talks began, President Kovenetsky said, "We do not need anyone to tell us that it costs us more to live than it did three months ago. We discover that sad truth every time we turn around. Perhaps we should be grateful for the warning sounded by some of the nation's top political figures who have said that the recent tax increase is 'only the beginning.'"

"We would have no right to call ourselves trade unionists if we sat idly by and watched our hard-earned gains evaporate. The profiteering of the businessmen and the 'pay-as-you-go' tax philosophy of the government are both adding to the financial burdens of the workers. Most wage earners never caught up with the price spiral that marked the end of OPA and now we are in the middle of another inflationary crisis.

"It is our business," the President continued, "to do something about situations like this. We are fighting for a raise to offset the recent rises. We will fight any suggestion of a wage freeze until our wages are completely in line with prices and until we are assured that genuine price control will protect our standards of living.

"In a country as bountiful as ours we reject the false theory of 'guns instead of butter.' We fought and supported World War II without impoverishing the workers. We see no reason why we should be expected to sacrifice the gains of ten long years while business merrily rakes in the chips. We intend to continue to justify the faith our members have shown in us by vigorously fighting in defense of their rights and their interests."

KNOW YOUR OFFICERS ELIZABETH HAMMOND—Part I



Elizabeth Hammond and her family, like millions of other individuals and families, did not escape the economic devastation wrought by the 1929 crash and the depression that followed.

The Hammond brood — Elizabeth, husband Carl and three sons and a daughter moved from Connecticut to New York in 1938 in search of greener pastures.

In 1940, while her husband was off on a business trip — Elizabeth sat down to write a reply to a Macy ad. The company was looking for experienced sales people. Miss Hammond wrote that she had never sold a thing in her life, but that as a customer she had learned the strong and the weak points of salesmanship. Macy's considered her answer and called her in.

Today she says, "I thought I'd never survive the training period, but I kept telling myself that if thousands of other people could do it, so could I!" Liz, as she is personally known to hundreds, began

her career in the upholstery department. Her talents were quickly recognized and she was promoted to "Consultant."

When Local 1-S began to spread its wings and moved into the selling division Elizabeth says simply, "I wasn't too excited."

She recalls that she had always been able to fight her own battles and that the company got away with nothing. One particular personal victory stands out clearly in her mind. While on the job she got a splinter in her foot. On reporting to the hospital she was ordered home for the day. When her next pay envelope came along Elizabeth discovered, with something of a shock, that she had been docked that day's pay. With a grandfather who was a famous lawyer and a father who was an outstanding judge, the art of argument was not lost on her. "Liz fought for and won her day's pay as she had fought and won all her other grievances.

When she joined Local 1-S, "Liz just made up her mind that "if what the Union said and did was to be said and done in my name and the names of the other members I was going to have an active part in the saying and the doing."

"It was then that I realized that most people are unable, as individuals to stand up and fight for their rights. I realized that only as a group — with effective leadership — could the people have strength to protest injustices. And I learned something else, too," Miss Hammond adds. "I learned that a problem which affects one person affects everybody and that



Capt. Vincent Bologna accepts Union Voice League team trophy from Moe Foner while team members with individual awards look on.

SOFTBALL CHAMPS GET AWARDS; SWIM-GYM PROGRAM OPEN TO ALL

When Captain Vincent Bologna and the men of the Herald Square 1 softball team accepted their Union Voice League championship awards last week they represented a high standard of individual, team and Union accomplishment.

While most Union members never get to play on championship teams Local 1-S offers every man and woman the opportunity to enjoy group activities of many kinds.

The Swim-Gym program now picking up steam at Textile High School (18th Street between 8th and 9th Avenue) has been the answer to lots of summer wishes. How many members, in top condition after a summer of sports, have been heard saying, "I wish I could feel like this all year round!"

You don't have to spend much money to have the use of a fully equipped gymnasium and an excellent swimming pool. By special arrangement with the Board of Education Local 1-S is able to let its members have a season card for only \$1! This card entitles the member to use of the gym and the pool for as many as four nights a week from now until May.

Department parties add to the fun of basketball, calisthenics, volley ball and badminton. But whether you come with a group or alone, you can be sure of meeting a swell crowd and having a grand time.

Get your tickets today — \$1 at the Union office.

GIVE
TO THE
BLOOD BANK

PERSONALS

APARTMENT TO SHARE—Single woman wants young lady to share 3 room apartment, Bronx. Cooking facilities, phone, television. Call Louise Negrin, KI 6-5122 after 5 P.M.

FOR SALE—Baby Grand (walnut) piano. Recently overhauled. Good condition. \$300. Phone CI 6-7494 after 6:30 P.M.

WANTED—Single woman wants large room, furnished or unfurnished, with cooking facilities. Not over \$38. Please call Betty Newman at Macy's Flatbush — UL 6-5000 Ext. 219.

FOR RENT—West Side Manhattan, good sized, freshly painted studio-like room. Two windows, radio, use of television. With or without breakfast. Excellent home for young lady or gentleman. Phone SC 3-3649, 6 to 7:30 P.M.

MEDICAL PLAN — for the name and address of the doctor nearest you CALL the Union Office — LA 4-9714 or Associated Physicians Medical Group — BU 8-4296 (Night or Day). Complete schedule of fees available upon request.

BLOOD BANK — If you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL Elizabeth Hammond at the Union Office — LA 4-9714.

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Union Calls Tune Macy Pays Pipe

Management thought it had figured a way to celebrate Parkchester, Flatbush, Jamaica and White Plains "Week" at the expense of the workers. And then Local 1-S lowered the boom!

Company trouble makers read the contract one way. Union trouble shooters read it another. Macy's claimed it was their right to schedule the branch store people for a third late night (1 to 3 P.M.) without paying for overtime.

Vice Presidents George Gurnea and Elizabeth Hammond said "NO!" Macy's Fred Fischer said "yes" and tried to hide behind the contract.

President Sam Kovenetsky joined his Vice Presidents in a trip to Macy President Weil's office. The top executives all took another long look at the contract and the company agreed to pay the price. The victory makes it "Workers' Week" in the branch stores.

Company Pays On Double Play

Proving again that it is never beyond trying to pull a fast one, Macy's attempted and lost another gamble intended to cost a Union member money.

While a grievance was pending demanding Helen LeVine's reinstatement to the 2nd Floor Contingents, she earned a \$3 merit raise in 11 Dept. Her grievance was won — and the company juggling began. Because she had to get back the \$2.50 she lost at the time of her transfer management tried to claim that she had gotten back the amount plus fifty cents when they gave her the merit increase.

With her \$3 plus \$2.50 now safely in hand, thanks in large part to Steward Teresa Heritag, Miss LeVine is convinced (and it's time Macy's was too) that there's no union like a good Union!

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